865.41078X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: FLEISSNER

Serial No.:

Filed: January 16, 2002

For: Method And Device For Transporting A Nonwoven Between Two Rollers Disposed At A Distance From Each Other

Group:

Examiner:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 16, 2002

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of this application and prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

3. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1, characterized in that, during delivery, the nonwoven material is simultaneously processed and cooled at the intrinsic temperature of the nonwoven material.

8. (Amended) Device according to Claim 1 including a calendar roller pair followed by an endless conveyor provided for further processing, characterized in that an additional permeable endless delivery conveyor (18) extends above the nonwoven track, approximately from the roller nip up to and beyond the following endless

conveyor (17), to which endless delivery conveyor is associated a suction device (24) running parallel to the conveyor (18) and located above the nontransport side.

10. (Amended) Device according to Claim 1, characterized in that a suction device (23) to receive the nonwoven material from the endless delivery conveyor (18) is located at the upper delivery site of the nonwoven material (21) extending from the endless delivery conveyor (18) to the following conveyor (17) below said endless conveyor.

11. (Amended) Device according to Claim 1 including a calendar roller pair followed by an endless conveyor for further processing, characterized in that a counter-rotating perforated drum (19) is associated with the lower roller of the calendar roller pair (5), in which drum a partial vacuum is generated.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are respectfully requested prior to examination on the merits of this application. A marked up copy of the amended claims is attached.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 865.41078X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

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3. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1 ~~or Claim 2~~, characterized in that, during delivery, the nonwoven material is simultaneously processed and cooled at the intrinsic temperature of the nonwoven material.

8. (Amended) Device according to ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ Claim 1 including a calendar roller pair followed by an endless conveyor provided for further processing, characterized in that an additional permeable endless delivery conveyor (18) extends above the nonwoven track, approximately from the roller nip up to and beyond the following endless conveyor (17), to which endless delivery conveyor is associated a suction device (24) running parallel to the conveyor (18) and located above the nontransport side.

10. (Amended) Device according to ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that a suction device (23) to receive the nonwoven material from the endless delivery conveyor (18) is located at the upper delivery site of the nonwoven material (21) extending from the endless delivery conveyor (18) to the following conveyor (17) below said endless conveyor.

11. (Amended) Device according to ~~one of the foregoing claims~~ Claim 1 including a calendar roller pair followed by an endless conveyor for further processing, characterized in that a counter-rotating perforated drum (19) is associated with the lower roller of the calendar roller pair (5), in which drum a partial vacuum is generated.